

30. (Amended) The purification/isolation method according to Claim 29

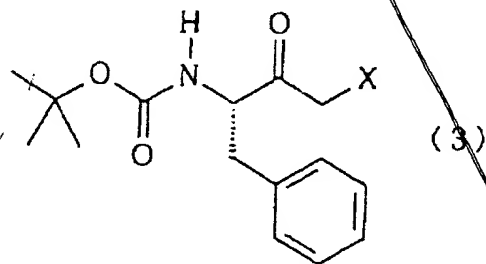
wherein an aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is used concomitantly as an auxiliary solvent at crystallization of the compound (1).

31. (Amended) The purification/isolation method according to Claim 25, 26, 27, 29 or 30

wherein the crystallization is carried out at a temperature not exceeding 60°C.

A2
32. (Amended) The purification /isolation method according to Claim 25, 26, 27, 29 or 30

wherein a mixture containing the compound (2) is obtainable by diastereo-selective reduction of a (3S)- 1- halo-2-oxo-3-N-(tert-butoxycarbonyl) amino-4-phenylbutane of the following general formula (3):



wherein x represents a halogen atom.

A3
Com. T
35. (Amended) The purification/isolation method according to Claim 33

wherein the mixture containing the compound (2) is obtainable by subjecting the compound (3) to diastereo-selective reduction,

A3
canceled.

extracting said compound (2) from the resulting reaction mixture into an organic phase in the presence of an organic solvent and water,
separating said organic phase from the aqueous phase
and adjusting it to a concentration suitable for crystallization.

39. (Amended) The purification/isolation method according to Claim 35
wherein the procedure for giving the mixture containing the compound (2) is carried out at a temperature not exceeding 60°C.

A4

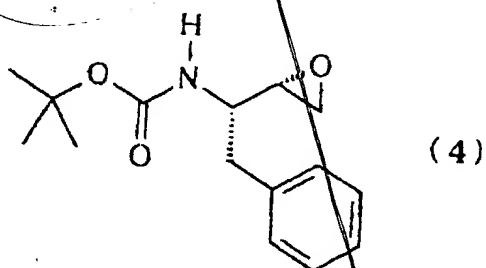
40. (Amended) The purification/isolation method according to Claim 25, 26, 27, 29 or 30
wherein the whole procedure for giving the compound (2) as crystals is carried out at a temperature not exceeding 60°C.

41. (Amended) The purification/isolation method according to Claim 30
wherein the aromatic hydrocarbon solvent is at least one member selected from the group consisting of benzene, toluene, xylene and ethylbenzene.

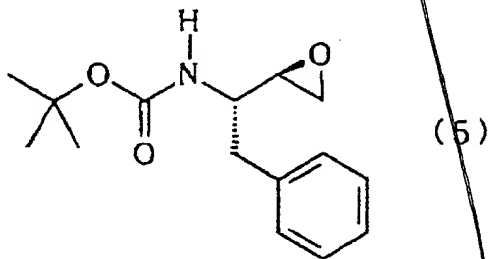
A5

43. (Amended) The purification/isolation method according to Claim 25, 26, 27, 29 or 30
wherein the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is at least one member selected from the group consisting of pentane, hexane, methylcyclohexane and heptane.

37
45. (Amended) The purification/isolation method according to Claim 25, 26, 27, 29 or 30 wherein the impurity contaminating the mixture containing the compound (2) is at least one member selected from the group consisting of said compound (1), which is the diastereomer, the compound (3), (2S,3S)-1,2-epoxy-3-N-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)amino-4-phenylbutane of the following general formula (4):



and (2R,3S)-1,2-epoxy-3-N-(tert-butoxycarbonyl) amino-4-phenylbutane of the following general formula (5):



46. (Amended) The purification/isolation method according to Claim 25, 26, 27, 29 or 30 wherein the halogen atom represented by X in the formula (1), the formula (2) and the formula (3) is chlorine.